

KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

NEWS OPPORTUNITY ADVISORY

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SCHOLARSHIPS FOR SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION EMPLOYEES' CHILDREN

(FRANKFORT, Ky.) – Two Kentucky public high school seniors are eligible to receive the Southeastern States Pupil Transportation Conference (SESPTC) Buster Bynum Scholarship.

SESPTC provides \$1,000 scholarships to high school seniors from SESPTC member states. Eligible students must have a parent or guardian employed in the public school pupil transportation field, be graduates of public high schools and plan to attend postsecondary educational institutions in the 2010-11 school year. The scholarship can be used for any part of the students' tuition, books or fees.

Information about the scholarships is being shared with Kentucky's public school district superintendents and others. Interested students should contact their guidance counselors for more details.

A local selection committee established in each school district will select a finalist, whose application must be submitted to the state SESPTC Scholarship Selection Committee no later than May 7. Only one application from each school district will be judged at the state level. Student applicants should not submit their applications directly to the state committee.

(more)

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The Buster Bynum Scholarship is a one-time \$1,000 education scholarship awarded to two deserving public school students (each receiving \$1,000) in each of the 14-member southeastern states of the SESPTC. Bynum is the current treasurer, past president and longtime member of the SESPTC Board of Directors, and he has been a strong advocate for improving student transportation safety for more than 42 years.

Created in 2005, Buster Bynum Scholarships are awarded to children of school bus transportation employees actively employed in public school transportation for the past five years and whose total family income is less than \$75,000. Eligible students must have at least a cumulative 3.0 GPA and are selected based on their leadership, citizenship and service.

Each school system will select a local winner and submit the winning application to the State SESPTC Selection Committee no later than May 7. The two finalists from each state will be notified no later than May 28.

The Southeastern States Pupil Transportation Conference (SESPTC) is a non-profit corporation created more than 55 years ago to host an annual conference focused on issues related to the transportation of schoolchildren.

The member southeastern states are Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia and West Virginia. Over the last few years, with the support of industry vendors, the SESPTC accumulated funds that the SESPTC Board of Directors disburses in the form of student education scholarships.